

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

Run 2250
6/24/85



For Week Ending 6/23/85

Issue: 16-85

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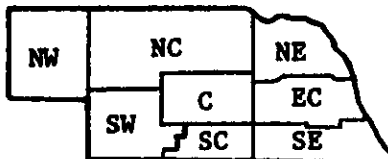
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WEATHER

The week started out cool but ended hot. Average temperatures ranged from one to three degrees below normal. Rainfall was scattered and very light except in the southeast where severe thunderstorms ended the week with torrential downpours.

GENERAL

High winds, hail and heavy rains brought an abrupt halt to fieldwork and wheat harvest as severe thunderstorms passed through the southeastern one-third of the State Sunday. Some crop losses from hail, winds and lowland flooding were certain, but the extent of damage was unknown at this time. Wheat harvest began in several southeastern counties earlier in the week with concern expressed over uneven crop development in some fields.

In western Nebraska, damages from freezing temperatures two weeks ago were still being assessed. Affected corn stands could be stunted for 7-10 days and a few dry bean fields suffered slight damage. With the wheat crop in the fill stage at the time of the frost, some yield reduction could show up at harvest time. Dry conditions in the Panhandle, which could force premature ripening of the wheat crop, also concerned growers. Most other crops escaped unharmed.

Other farm activities included cultivating and hilling of corn, irrigating, laying pipe and cutting hay. The number of days suitable for fieldwork was 6.5.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 75% short and 25% adequate. Subsoil moisture rated 25% short and 75% adequate. A year ago, topsoil moisture was 7% short, 46% adequate and 47% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 62% adequate and 38% surplus.

Precipitation, April 1 - June 23, 1985

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.07	.07	.11	.21	.40	.21	.15	.78
Total since April 1.....	4.91	6.85	10.26	8.95	10.31	6.39	10.32	9.09
Normal since April 1.....	7.48	8.21	9.66	9.04	10.11	7.51	9.22	10.77

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CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 5% poor, 39% fair and 56% good, showing the second consecutive week of condition declines. This reflects the effects of the frost damage and extremely dry conditions persisting in the Panhandle. Seventy percent of the wheat was turning color compared to 35% last year and 55% average. Wheat ripened moved ahead to 10%, compared to 0% last year and 2% average. Less than 1% of the wheat was harvested Statewide, compared to 0% last year and average.

Corn condition rated 1% poor, 11% fair, 64% good and 24% excellent. Cultivation and weed control activities continued. Cornborer larvae were present in many fields with some producers preparing to spray.

Soybean condition rated 23% fair, 70% good and 7% excellent. Emergence of the crop reached 100% last week, compared to 70% last year and 85% average.

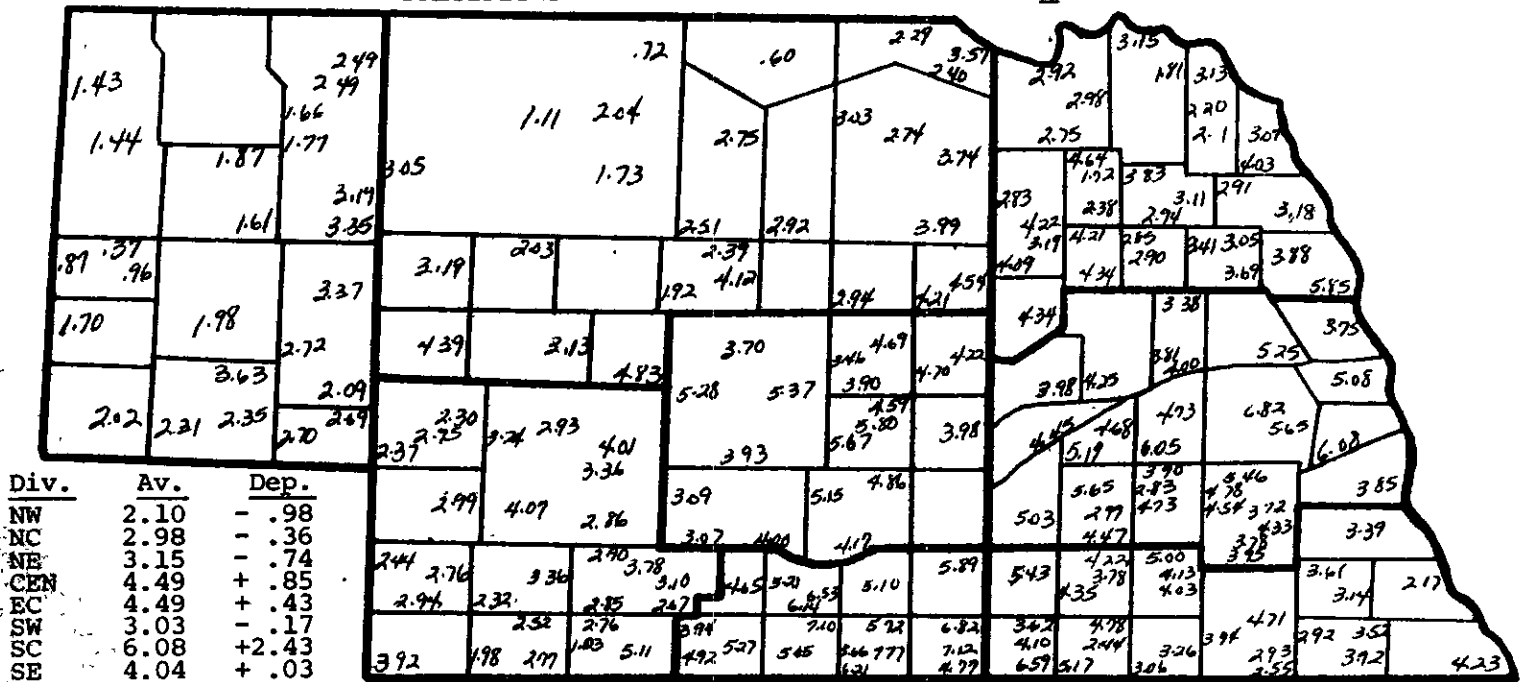
Sorghum condition rated 32% fair, 66% good and 2% excellent. Sorghum emergence was 100%, compared to 70% last year and 90% average.

The second cutting of alfalfa reached 4% complete, compared to 0% last year and 4% average. Alfalfa was rated in mostly good to fair condition. Persistent drought conditions have reduced hay prospects in northwest counties.

LIVESTOCK

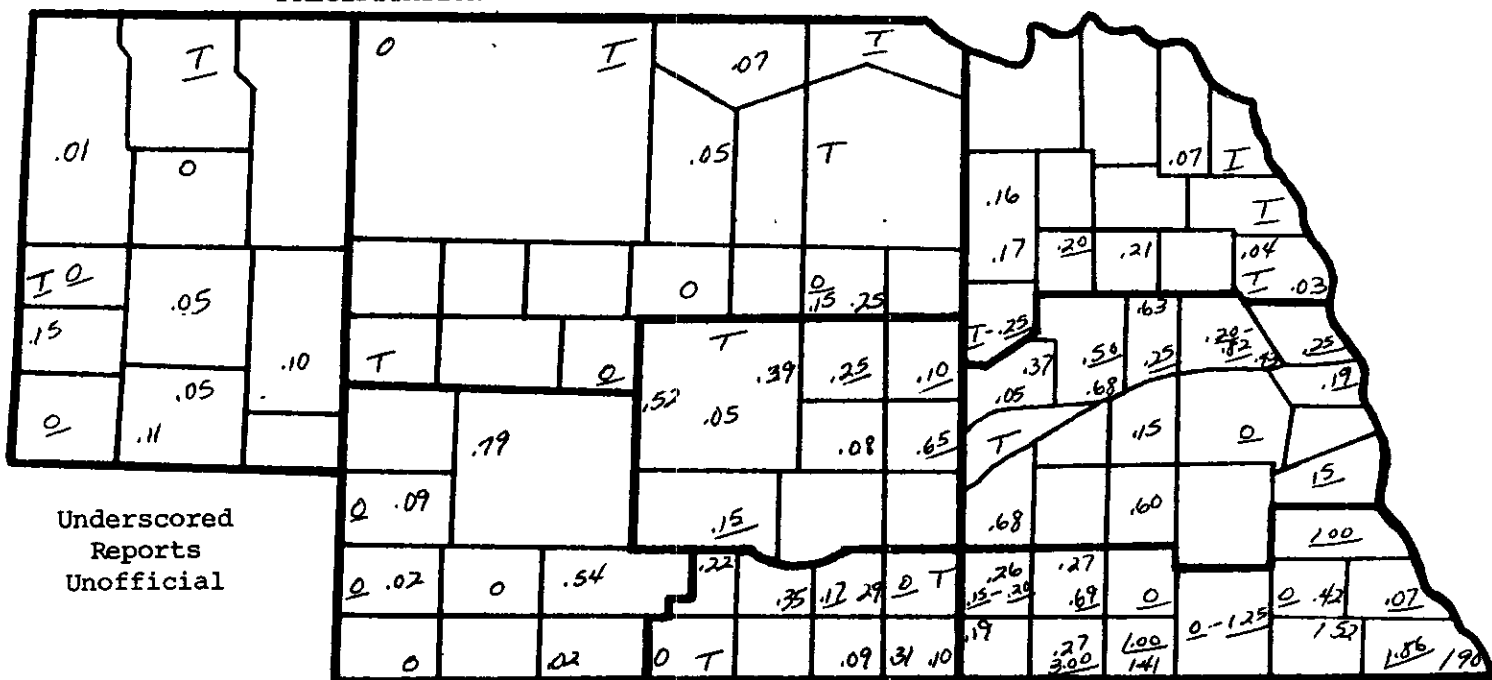
Pasture and range condition rated mostly adequate across the State, except in areas of the Panhandle and north central Nebraska where drought conditions exist. If dry weather persists, producers could be forced to market cattle due to lack of adequate forage.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF MAY 1985 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Center for Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1985



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 1985

Station		Temperature			Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure
		Max	Min		
NW	Chadron	95	38	65	--
	Scottsbluff	96	43	68	-1
	Sidney	96	37	64	--
NC	Ord	95	44	72	--
	Valentine	101	38	66	-3
NE	Norfolk	93	50	70	-2
	Sioux City	91	50	71	-1
CEN	Grand Island	98	49	71	-2
EC	Lincoln	95	52	72	-3
	Omaha	91	51	70	-3
SW	Imperial	--	--	--	--
	North Platte	98	38	67	-3

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.